BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

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FICTION

LEAD BOOKS *but not* MUST BOOKS

Note:- We are in a quandary. Frankly, we don't feel that any one of the titles grouped together has an assured market. And yet, they are limelight books - because of an author's previous record, because of subject matter, etc. So we are pulling them out of the Problematical Books and putting them under this special heading.

March ~~27~~ 20

Boyd, James — BITTER CREEK — Scribner

* Yes, it is a good tale. It is good Americana. It will pull a popular market among Western fans. It skirts the fringes of the Rose Wilder Lane frontier appeal, though thoroughly shorn of sentiment. But, in the last analysis, it isn't what one quite expects of James Boyd. In the first place, it is a cattle country yarn, instead of his old stamping ground of the Carolinas and Virginia. Those who are looking for the carefully detailed and meticulously exact picture of the life and people, will find this drawn in broader strokes, faster paced, more keyed to plot interest than to atmosphere, though the picture of the expanding West of a raw town in the '70's, will satisfy the demands for a vigorous setting. Not historical - except as to authenticity of background, but a spirited story of a lad who runs away from home, tumbles into a succession of extraordinary situations, which shatter his faith in humanity, and who eventually winds up as a cattle man, scarred by experience, his faith in women broken by his mother's desertion, and his love of the open spaces the major passion of his life. There is a love story, thwarted and twisted - but primarily it is a story of adventure in a raw new country. Has more chance for general popular appeal - sales and rentals; and, perhaps, less chance for long life, than *Drums* or *Marching On*. $2.50

March 6

Singer, I. J. — EAST OF EDEN — Knopf

The Brothers Ashkenazi was one of the most gripping books I have ever read. Sordid, unforgettable in its broad sweep of canvas, the picture of a race discarded, downtrodden but driven by a secret fire. Now comes his second novel, to reach the English speaking public, *East of Eden*. Again he shows unerring perception of the motivation of his characters, uncanny knowledge of the depths of poverty and the ways of thought and being in characters drawn from the lowest levels of Polish Jewry. Implicit in his story is a commentary on various levels of society which can allow such things to be; particularly of the upper crust of the prosperous Jews in a village where the pitiful family of the peddler Mattes have their being. But the book fails, somehow, to capture the sweep of universal drama which the other book achieved. It is an angry book, a sad book, a disillusioned book, and in the final section, where the peddler's son, Nachman, martyred for his faith in Communism, finds his ideals destroyed in Soviet Russia where the evils of the old system are cropping up again in the bureaucracy of the new, he makes his one tangible link with the issues of today. An important book but not easy reading, nor yet a book that will reach as wide a market as the earlier novel. $2.50

March 22 ??

Shute, Nevil ORDEAL Morrow

* Daily papers carry headlines of the bombing of Barcelona. Each new story has taken on a greater human meaning for me since I read *Ordeal*. And that is not because *Ordeal* is a story of Barcelona, or even of Spain, nor because it is a dramatic picture of world shattering events. But simply because it is an intensely human and intimate picture of what might be going on in any town under bombardment today, in the experiences of a small middle class family which has no quarrel with anyone, but which is victimized with the rest of the civilian population. It is singularly objective, unemotional and unsensational in the telling. The setting is Southampton, England. Death by bombs from invisible enemies seems less awful than the cutting off of all the amenities of civilization, the safeties we assume, the results in cholera, typhoid, starvation for children, ignorance of what is happening. A trick book - by the author of *Kindling*. Heavy publisher backing - and worth it, as it may just catch the public imagination. $2.50

April ~~21~~ 17

Brand, Millen THE HEROES Simon & Schuster

A far cry from *The Outward Room*, save in the choice of a subject verging on the psychopathic. It lacks the sensational aspects of the plot of the first, but in many ways is a finer and more mature book. *The Outward Room* was made the test book in a special promotion scheme, which carried it forcibly to a wider market than it might otherwise have found. That has laid a certain groundwork for another Millen Brand book, but this one is for that part of the reading public that found the psychological aspects of *The Outward Room* of more interest than the romance....This is the story of a Soldiers' Home, in which the inmates are suffering more from the depression than from the war. To this Home comes John Burley, one armed, deprived of the carpentry work he had done up to 1933 by labor conditions. But it is not his story alone. The author manages to convey the inner reactions of this group of forgotten men, increasingly sensitive, thrown back on themselves, facing the inescapable sameness of successive days, sharing an inner bond of mutual understanding and consideration. A very real and moving picture of the life, of the personal problems in drowning despair, futility, loss of freedom and usefulness. Depressing, almost too introverted for the average novel reader to stomach. But on Brand's name it should get a good press. $2.00

April 12

Sharp, Margery HARLEQUIN HOUSE Little,Brown

Something about this story seems more like Robert Nathan than like Margery Sharp. While not actually a fantasy, there is an unreality to it, a certain quaintness, a whimsical rather than humorous quality in the gentle spoofing. There is none of the warm humanity of *The Nutmeg Tree*, none of the authenticity of characterization. This is a story of a strange trio, - an elderly and not too bright bookshop manager, a lovely girl with an internal dynamo that takes everything in its stride, and a scapegrace brother who finally solves his own inadequacies in this workaday world, by skipping lightly over the mere matter of earning his daily bread and marrying an heiress. What brings them together and how they work out their joint salvation makes charming reading. But once read, the book seems a bit thin. $2.50

These Mean Money In The Library Till

A new Rupert Hughes, STATELY TIMBER (Scribner); a new Kathleen Norris, THE RUNAWAY (Doubleday, Doran); a comer for the good light fiction fans, Isabella Holt with A VISIT TO PAY (Bobbs-Merrill); and John Klempner's ONCE AROUND THE BLOCK (Scribner) - watch it! See below for reports.

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS - *Fiction*

February 20

von Horvath, Odon THE AGE OF THE FISH Dial

Post war youth heading towards a horrible future in a story of a regimented state. An interesting job, where suspense holds though characters are secondary in interest. The story of the inner rebellion of a young teacher against the precepts of the state, brought to a head when he sees tragedy as the result of hiw own cowardice, and is driven by conscience to attempt to right the wrong for which he was responsible. Love and belief in humanity set against the regimented production of machine-like robots destined for one purpose only, war. $2.00

February 21

Habe, Hans THREE OVER THE FRONTIER Dodd, Mead

A somewhat incoherent and uneven book which attempts to tell, through the pages of a novel, the story of German emigrés. There are three central figures, thrown together in somewhat dramatic and arbitrary fashion, a triangle formed of a wealthy industrialist, a young Communist and an unconventional Jewish girl of easy virtue; and the scene shifts across the map of Europe, a mad dance which never seems wholly real. The plot might be convincing, but the characters are puppets. There are some incisive scenes - pictures of emigrés in various cities - passages of fine writing - but the book as a whole never comes to life. Translated by Eric Sutton. $2.50

February 23

McLaverty, Michael CALL MY BROTHER BACK Longmans, Green

This recalls *Twenty Years A-Growing* only in the fact that it is the story of an Irish childhood, without formulated plot or decisive action. Rather is it a series of flashes, combining to convey the feeling of the period leading up to the rebellion in 1916. There is no particular effort at sharp characterization, little exposition, merely everyday conversation and incidents. The childhood is Colm's - early years spent on a small island, then Belfast and a church school, troubled days with the dual dissension and the Home Rule issues, punctuated at the close with continual street sniping which brings death into the household. The prose style, while lacking the mystical quality of many Irish writers, has the characteristic rhythm and sense of poetry. The book emerges as simply a way of life. $2.00

Allan, Ted THIS TIME A BETTER EARTH Morrow

The author spent eight months with the International Brigade in Spain in 1937 and to some extent has fictionized his personal experiences in this novel. While it does not compare with the Hemingway nor Bates material in vividness, nor with the intellectual brilliance of the Malraux book, it has a freshness and youthful buoyancy that gives it a more popular flavor. Bob Curtis, 21 and a Canadian, joins up. This is his story and that of his five buddies. Albacete - an air raid - Madrid as a reporter when a slight injury keeps him from the thick of it - a romantic interlude - scenes in the trenches, on the streets and cafés of Madrid - a cross section of a war ravaged country. Not a top ranking book, but sincere and with a certain gallantry. $2.50

February 23

Myers, Henry OUR LIVES HAVE JUST BEGUN Stokes

The old familiar story of the Children's Crusade told once again in a gentle, graceful fictional rendering. The period is the early 13th century. Stephen, a mystical child of ten, envisions in a troubadour, the person of Christ whom he believes has been sent to lead him with a group to recapture the tomb of Christ. Fantasy becomes actuality as the child lead 10,000 like him to the Holy Land - only to be betrayed by Marseilles merchants to slave traders. Trapped - sold into slavery - tricked into the temptation to betray their faith - an appealing story, with the flavor of the times, its customs and legends as background. Possible plus sale to younger readers. $2.50

Late February

Hughes, Rupert STATELY TIMBER Scribner

* Hughes has steeped himself in the details of Puritan New England and here is a picture stripped of any romantic ideals of Colonial days, and revealing Boston of persecutions, intolerances, rigid disciplinary measures - the "freedom" for which the colonists had left their home lands. Seaborn Fleet's rebellion against all it meant, his defense of a Quaker girl, his generally unorthodox behavior and resultant banishment to Barbados and Virginia, and ultimately to England - this is the story. While in England, he wins recall from banishment by protecting Boston's interests - and finds again the woman he had loved. An absorbing story of the times, though perhaps over minute in details. Hughes' name is good for a substantial market. This is in more serious vein than usually associated with him, but is good melodrama and good historical fiction. $2.75

March ~~29~~ 20

Klempner, John ONCE AROUND THE BLOCK Scribner

* *No Stork At Nine* struck a new note in modern fiction, but it wasn't quite real. This is a more important book, equally appealing, equally original and more authentic. It has verve and humor and poignancy. Here is the story of big moments in the lives of little people, *Little Man, What Now?* gone wholly American, streamlined and sparkling. There is Rhoda, still hoping for marriage at thirty odd and pounding a typewriter; Peter, backbone of the family, accountant for a chocolate factory, dreaming of the novel he must write, and refusing to compromise his sincere love for the little stenographer by marriage with the boss's daughter; Jerry, the youngest, a pianist who will never make the grade. They know they are beaten before they start, but there they are, wise-cracking in flippant, caustic manner. Not a propagandist novel - but the implications of the rottenness of the system, strikes, loss of jobs, pay cuts, etc, are all there as byplay. He has an ear for dialogue and a pen to set it down. $2.50

March 13

Todd, Ruthven OVER THE MOUNTAIN Knopf

A potpourri of fantasy, satire and allegory, in the strange story of the ascent of a peak to an unknown country. Legend has shrouded it in mystery, threatening doom to any who attempted to scale it. The narrator dares the journey - finds a strange land on the other side, a country dominated by strange customs. In turns the various forces attempt to capitalize his feat - the priesthood, the Fascist forces, through a ludicrous secret service group composed of mental delinquents. When he attempts to return the way he came, voices persuade him back - and he returns to find it is his own country, after all. The symbolism, both social and political, is self evident, and it is not cheaply done. But the market for allegories is slight. $2.50

March 17

Hurley, Doran HERSELF: MRS. PATRICK CROWLEY Longmans, Green

Definitely Catholic appeal, with humorous and sentimental twists, in a story of a character who has appeared in a number of Hurley's books and magazine stories and won an enthusiastic following. This is the story of a memorable three weeks in New York, when she virtually buys the town with the proceeds of her sale of her chance on an Irish Sweepstakes favorite. A Jewish friend in the "Old Parish" makes the deal for her, and the wind up of her adventures in New York comes when she discovers her new friends in the big city are related to the Jewish friends back in Massachusetts, and she is instrumental in reuniting them. It's an hilarious tale of two old ladies and their mad adventures in the metropolis. $2.00

March 20

Sanford, John SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN Knopf

An unusual book, with some pieces of brilliant writing, but also with some of the most bestial and flamboyantly crude passages ever encountered on the printed page, exceeding Celine and Faulkner in depravity and language. The story is told in flash backs of two men, Platt and Paulhan. The story opens with Platt's trial for the murder of Paulhan. In the story of Platt you get a picture of a childhood of perpetual atrocities, a brief introduction to lust, a marriage to a psychopathic virgin - and complete frustration. Through Paulhan's story you follow the life of a bit of human driftwood, hating material and human ties, unable to stay bound to anyone or anything. Paulhan's death came by deliberate neglect on the part of Platt-who is ultimately freed. A ruthless, repellent book, written with the power that such subject matter occasionally releases. TRIPLE WARNING TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES. $2.50

March 23

Hamilton, Bruce TRAITOR'S WAY Bobbs-Merrill

A rather absorbing adventure narrative with underlying political implications, handled in such a way that its appeal is somewhat limited. The narrator is an impecunious teacher in a third rate English school, who becomes rather innocently involved in a Communist raid during a Fascist meeting, is imprisoned, and - in escaping - gets his hands on some papers which would form the key to his exoneration, but which he cannot yield up to the wrong people. New clothes for an old in-and-out-of-trouble yarn, a long cat and mouse chase, with some close shaves and some facile alibis and aliases. Casually and lightly done - and good entertainment. $2.00

March 24

Perry, George Sessions WALLS RISE UP Doubleday, Doran

There's a bit of suggestion of *Tortilla Flat* in this story of three bums who settle in a community (in the Southwest perhaps?) and exist on the absolute minimum of work evolved by the brains of the outfit, old Jimmy. They diddle the storekeeper, acquire a brawny half wit whom they hire out, satisfy the female population on the sexual side, when necessary, do a bit of fishing, manufacture evidence to acquire a windfall, etc. Lacks the tenderness of *Tortilla Flat*, but is amusing in presentation of individuals against society. Not mincing nor prettified as to speech or incidents. Libraries and bookshops - 'ware your shockeasilies! $2.00

Late March or Early April

Iams, Jack TABLE FOR FOUR Simon & Schuster

Intended as a sort of *Private Lives*, I gather, but doesn't quite come off. The "four" of the title consist of an American journalist and the wife who pines for culture and does not find it in Pittsburgh, and an English couple who fascinate the Americans and who are game to get all they can out of them. The Americans take them to Europe - but the ocean voyage breaks things up momentarily and they part, only to have the American wire for them in Paris where once again they join forces. It takes a political upheaval to break up a *menage a quatre* which grows daily more tense. Many amusing moments and fair enough entertainment, but not consistent in either interest or hilarity - and constantly on the ragged edge of being naughty. $2.00

Announcing for April 28

Parker, Dorothy HERE LIES *The Collected Stories of* Viking

* A sure money-in-pocket publication, for it includes all of the stories from *Laments for the Living* and *After Such Pleasures* as well as "Mrs. Hofstadter of Josephine Street", "Soldiers of the Republic", "Clothe the Naked" and two as yet unnamed. Here is the one author whose short story collections rival most novels in sales figures. Companion volume to her collected poems, *Not So Deep As A Well*. $3.00

April 5

Harthern, Ernest HOME AT LAST Bobbs-Merrill

Going Home was both travel book and philosophical study of Palestine and what it connoted. Now, in the form of a novel, Harthern has given another form to the colonization spirit of Palestine, through the story of one Simon Andermann, a German, who was exiled as a result of interfering in an attack on a friend whose sweetheart was Jewish. Through the trial, his own remote Jewish ancestry comes out. The story starts with his coming to Palestine. The past is revealed in a throwback. But it is in Palestine that the events of the story take place. There is a romance with an Arab dancer, but this is secondary to the romance of the land. In small compass this is the story of Jewish colonization, and for that reason timely. As a novel or a love story, the action is slow and undramatic, and even the end, in which he dies by an Arab bullet, is symbolic of another sacrifice in the racial struggle. It is the land that is the hero and the land survives. Some beautiful writing, but a book of limited appeal. $2.50

April 7

Norris, Kathleen THE RUNAWAY Doubleday, Doran

A cockeyed plot runs away with Mrs. Norris, but she handles it better than most. She has a faculty for pulling the heartstrings in the course of plots that stretch the credulity to the utmost. This is the story of a woman who seems to have a genius for marrying or almost marrying the wrong men, but who ultimately finds safe haven and the answer to the mystery of her parentage with the man who should have been her father. Mrs. Norris trims her tale with all the proper ornaments and it is a sure renter. $2.00

April 11

Paul, Elliot THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER Random House

This was originally scheduled for February publication and reported on December 1st (page 555), as follows:- "Another direction for the author of *Life and Death of a Spanish Town*, for this is a novel with social implications and an American industrial background. Loring owns not only the mills inherited from his father, but virtually the town in which they stand, the mayor, the press, the church, *et al.* This is the story of the fight he waged successfully against unionization, of the victory which proved, for him personally, defeat, in all that mattered (although he did not recognize it as such). It is a human picture of the men and women - a might-be-true story going on in many industrial centers. Well done, but the satirical handling of the capitalistic point of view will limit its book buying market." - - The details of the methods used to break strike will have a familiar ring to those who have followed recent labor activity, as it is quite obviously based on an actual occurrence which marked a milestone in American industrial history. Others will read it as a revelation of what can be done, granted power and money, and humanity that begins and ends with a paternalistic point of view. $2.50

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR REPORT IN EARLIER BULLETINS

February 1

Holt, Isabella A VISIT TO PAY Bobbs-Merrill

* This for the top class for women's sales and rentals, a semi-psychological novel with crisp, tart dialogue and a set of engaging characters. Convincing in its authenticity of character and setting. There is Katherine Sadler, torn between loyalty to her fly-by-night, immature husband, in jail for embezzlement, and her need for freedom and a new start when the top blows off. There is the man's son by a former marriage, Martin, who gives up college to look out for his stepmother. There is Peg, his second cousin, ugly, gawky, but dynamic and adoring Martin. There is skilful handling of Katherine's inner conflict in the face of the decision to leave her husband on his release, and of her finding a way out of the hash she had made of her life. There is Martin's story - his affair with Peg's roommate, his job difficulties, his final adjustment. A neat and competent piece of work, with nice touches of satire and humor, and a credible - and likeable - group of characters. Helen Hull audience, with something of Katherine Brush in her earlier field. Isabella Holt should prove a good property. $2.50

February 8

Hueston, Ethel THE HONORABLE UNCLE LANCY Bobbs-Merrill

A satire on political campaigns in which the tricks of the trade are held up to laughter and gentle spoofing. A kindly dig or two at middle western foibles may amuse some readers and annoy others. The story is rather original. A senator's wife sees good campaign props in her three orphaned nieces, aged 16, 18, 21, and plays them up for all they are worth. The sweet, simple and girlish role - plus back to the farm and old home week form the texts for her sermons. Of course, there are all sorts of slips and near slips, but they all prove grist to the kindly senator's mill, and bring about his re-election. A few obvious romances are slipped in. The not too critical reader, seeking light entertainment, with no strain on the mentality, may enjoy it. Rentals. $2.00

February 10

Ducharme, Jacques THE DELUSSON FAMILY Funk & Wagnalls

An interminable, dull chronicle of a French Canadian family and how they grew. The father, a farmer, follows some of his countrymen and goes to Holyoke, Massachusetts, where he has to go into a mill to support his family of seven. The period is the late '70's. Little or no plot against the background of the town, the customs of the French Canuck settlement, their pious, bourgeois virtues, detailed *ad infinitum*. Recounted in consciously simple manner, tailored to fit the content. $2.50

Tandrup, Harald RELUCTANT PROPHET Knopf

This is the story of Jonah, which can be construed as satire - or transversely as an artless retelling of the Bible story. Jonah is shown as a "little" man, rebelling at being chosen for immortality, wishing to live as ordinary men, rather than under God's surveillance. This is the tale of his defiance of God's commands, and of his ultimate capitulation, protesting every step of the way. It has some charm and humor in the telling, and should appeal to those who liked *Giant Killer, etc.* Lacks the profundity that gives Mann's *Joseph* saga its extraordinary power. Translated from the Danish. $2.50

Announcing

"Saki" (H. H. Munro) COMPLETE SHORT STORIES (Halcyon House) Blue Ribbon

The Viking edition of the complete Saki short stories is a good standard item. "Saki" is a cult which has been taken on by intellectuals and near-intellectuals. But he has the wherewithal to reach the ranks to whom the cheaper editions appeal. So here - with an introduction by Christopher Morley - it is at $1.49

MYSTERIES, WESTERNS AND THRILLERS

February 9

Acheson, Edward MURDER TO HOUNDS Harcourt, Brace

* A good yarn, fast hitting, keen dialogue and a number of unusual factors in both crime and setting. A Virginia estate, owned by a Northern millionaire, the overhanging tragedy in the fear of insanity, conflict in personalities, and a will that recognizes two and disinherits two others. There are two deaths, one apparently discovered by the hounds (a theory quickly disproved), and there are plenty of red herrings. The whole picture is complicated by too many detectives and pseudo-detectives, including an attractive but irritating Englishman of mysterious origin. Publishers place it in the Sayers' school. Perhaps, by deductive reasoning and pace, but there is no character that comes clear as does Peter Wimsey and his inestimable Bunter. However, he is an interesting newcomer in the field. $2.00

February 15

Campbell, Harriette R. THE MOOR FIRES MYSTERY Harper

The authentic English country house background is not quite excuse enough for a not quite up to the mark mystery, involving an attempted kidnapping, a lord of the manor shot dead on his own moors, attempts on the lives of others, skeletons in various family cupboards, lots of false clues - and Brade with his Chinese tiles, working his cranky system once again. $2.00

February 24

Grinstead, J. E. KING OF THE RANGELAND Dodge

Not a patterned Western and only medium good. Setting - Texas in the '90's; lots of shooting; a family feud, with a Montague and Capulet complication. And the "set" King Ben's kingdom, a large stretch of territory ruled by the law preserver of the district. It all comes out in the wash - rustlers are checked - love prevails. $2.00

March ~~17~~ 13

Dyer, George ADRIANA Scribner

* Good entertainment, with adventure-romance-intrigue and a slight touch of mystery, in a story set on Martha's Vineyard, with nice people (all but the villain). Special appeal for those to whom the sailing is bait. Romance and adventure, kidnapping, blackmail, a disappearing corpse and a faked business deal all involved. $2.00

March ~~10~~ 24

Dean, Elizabeth MURDER IS A COLLECTOR'S ITEM Doubleday, Doran

This does for the antique business what Page did for the book business in *Fast Company*, though not so much on the tough side. Boston is the scene for two murders in an antique shop; the handy girl tries to protect the missing boss and the nephew of one of the dead men acts as amateur criminologist. Sprightly tale. $2.00

March ~~24~~ 10

Ransome, Stephen DEATH CHECKS IN Doubleday, Doran

Good fast pace keeps this somewhat complicated mystery from becoming too involved. There is an unidentified corpse, a missing socialite, a vanishing gambler, a doctor involved in malpractice and Dr. Parke involuntarily becomes first assistant to the New York Police in unravelling the crime. $2.00

April ~~29~~ 28

Dustin, Charles HARDBOILED TENDERFOOT Dodge

Entertaining Western, with variations on the usual formula, which concerns the exploits of mysterious Richard Nuttling, dude tenderfoot, who manages to come out of every predicament. He rides wild horses, flies planes, runs down rustlers and wins the rancher's daughter. $2.00

~~April~~ 4 3/28

Raine, Wm. MacLeod MORAN BEATS BACK Houghton, Mifflin

Adventure rather than straight Western. Story of a man who wants no adventure, who admits himself to be timid and shy, is forced into situations that demand a follow through and that involved danger. But he comes out on top, whether it be robbery, fraud, kidnapping or what have you. Setting a Western city. $2.00

April 7

Rath, Virginia MURDER WITH A THEME SONG Doubleday, Doran

California setting again for couturier Dundas, detective on the side, in a story of kidnapping and triple murder. Complicated genealogical set-up, but Dundas and the local sheriff ferret it out. Not too fair, with false clues, but entertaining. $2.00

NON-FICTION

MUST BOOKS

February 15

McKenney, Ruth INDUSTRIAL VALLEY Harcourt, Brace

** This for the *Middletown* market - and tops! It seems almost incredible that anyone could write *My Sister Eileen* and win all through laughter - and then turn right about face and stir her audience to the depths with this extraordinarily moving case history of a town (Akron) and its people. From the early days of the depression through a life and death industrial struggle in which the C I O won its first major victory, down to the present with a surface calm of apparently adjusted labor relations. It is first of all a human document, through a day by day commentary on high high lights and events as they affected the lives of workers and industrialist over a six years' span. Perhaps the very fact of her being a skilled humorist rests on an underlying sense of the tragic. In any case, she has caught the courageous spirit of the group and the individuals who composed it. Accompanying the human interest aspects, there is a challenge to the social significance of it all. Her description of our first sit down strike is a masterpiece. Here is an essential book for everyone interested in labor problems - and should prove an opening wedge to social awareness through its very readability, for those who might sheer away from its serious implications. Remember the success of *I Went To Pit College* several years ago? This should catch the same popular market - and is far and away a more important book.
$3.00

Mumford, Lewis MEN MUST ACT Harcourt, Brace

* Mumford appoints himself a modern Cato, with "Carthage Must Be Destroyed" translated into "Men Must Act". Here is his program for the defense of democracy against the triumvirate of fascism, - Germany, Italy and Japan. He builds his case - then poses his program of defense. "We must put aside our childish credulity about the possibility of civilizing the fascists: the policy of appeasement makes the lion stronger: it does not remove his teeth or lessen his ferocity." He accuses England and France of betrayal and duplicity, and puts it up to us. He warns us that we cannot secure peace on agreeable terms. He insists upon preparedness - to meet the enemy within our gates, but primarily, his is a doctrine of non-intercourse, carried to its ultimate boundaries:- withdrawal of nationals, liquidation of investments, placing embargo on trade, withholding passport privileges, refusing entry to fascist vessels, deporting fascist subjects, withdrawing citizenship from citizens who accept dual allegiance. He recognizes the burden this would place on many - but thinks it essential, and endorses the plan of government aid. And he demands the lowering of immigration bars, the distribution of exiles intelligently over the country - and presents a fairly cogent argument in favor of this action not resulting in increase in unemployment. A brief book, but every word has weight - and Mumford has built for himself an extensive audience of thoughtful readers. Sell to the Armstrong audience as well. $1.50

March 1

Waln, Nora REACHING FOR THE STARS Little, Brown

** This is a book that needed to be written. The extremists wont like it, perhaps, for they want nothing good to be said of Nazi Germany. But the intelligent reader, who is willing to recognize the good - and at the same time to see the rottenness on which it is built and the very dangers in the superficial impressions, will find it a convincing picture, and a challenge to destroy the evil while preserving the good. In the last part of the book, a young German visitor to England pleads belief that all Germans are not pro-Nazi, and that there is working an underground

group determined to rescue Germany from the beasts that prey upon her... The book is a chronicle of four years spent in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia; an intimate picture of one woman's determination to see all there was to be seen through Nazi eyes, to share with Germans of all types the experiences and the understanding that was theirs, to be with them in their homes and to bring them into hers. She was fortunate, perhaps, in living in those parts of Germany least dominated by the Prussian principle - but she saw enough and too much for her peace of mind, she shared tragedy, she sensed undercurrents of fear, she dared to speak while others were silent. She had left before the September betrayal and its aftermath - but she had not cut her contacts, and - from England - she shared the experiences of the German friends across the Channel. Her Quaker upbringing explains the tempered viewpoint, the optimism. But to those who read her fascinating book, the true picture emerges, truer perhaps for its very contrasts in lights and shadows. Nora Waln's first book, *House of Exile*, the story of her years in China, was a best seller. The sections of *Reaching For The Stars* that have appeared in the Atlantic have evidenced sure popularity for the book. The publishers justifiably have tremendous faith in this book, are backing it with a large advertising appropriation and sales promotion aids for the trade. $3.00

June 20
~~Mid-April~~ BoM selection July

de Saint Exupery, Antoine WIND, SAND AND THE STARS Reynal & Hitchcock

* *Night Flight* made what is probably an all time high for any book on flying, always excepting Anne Lindbergh's books. That was published as fiction, though it stemmed from the author's own experiences. Now comes this volume, call it autobiography, memoirs, random observances and experiences of a mail pilot. Any or all of these terms give it a matter of factness completely foreign to its nature. As in *Listen, The Wind!*, it epitomizes the beauty and the mystery and the adventure of flying, with its practical, intellectual, spiritual and emotional aspects in balanced ration. Not a chronological record, but each phase has its place:- the craft, the men, the tool, the plane and the planet, oasis, men of the desert, prisoner of the sand, Barcelona and Madrid - such are the chapter heads. Two high spots of adventure, - one of a pilot wrecked in the Andes in winter, one of his own crash on the Sahara, with 500 miles of sand about him, place the book in the personal adventure field. A superb piece of writing, capturing and revealing the whole breadth of a mail pilot's experiences. I saw all but one chapter - which presumably brings certain aspects of his experiences up to date. Don't miss it. Men and women, boys and girls - a wide market. $2.50

AND THIS DARK HORSE

March 28

Hays, Arthur Garfield DEMOCRACY WORKS Random House

* I'd put this alongside of Max Lerner's *It Is Later Than You Think* as a basis for a modern political and social creed. There has been an unending flow of books on the subject of democracy, most of them angry books, challenging books, analytical books; few of them constructive books based on thoughtful study of what democracy has evidenced and whither it is tending. Arthur Garfield Hays does this and more. He evaluates the progress of democracy, opens our eyes to the complete change of viewpoint which has accompanied each major step forward, proving that within our present frame we can create a new picture, fitting the needs to the times, using, discarding, building on what is good for something better. He takes that difficult middle of the road path which is neither radical nor conservative. He accepts the profit motive and a capitalistic basis for planned economy and social legislation and orderly unionization. He shoots Communism and Fascism full of holes, as applied to the American scene - and gives us something that holds fast to our own brand of democracy, and that has proved both in the past and in the present, as a workable basis for living. A grand job. $3.00

A Few High Spots For The Cash Drawer

DEMON DAUGHTER by Honoré Morrow (Morrow) is entertaining reading; BLUE WATER VAGABOND by Dennis Puleston (Doubleday) is tops in its field; Edgar Mowrer's book on China is sure of a good sale, THE DRAGON WAITS (Morrow). An important late comer is EUROPE IN RETREAT by Vera Micheles Dean (Knopf). See below for reports.

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS - *Non-fiction*

February 16

Kavanagh, Patrick THE GREEN FOOL Harper

* Not topflight nor perfect, but it gives keen pleasure, some chuckles and considerable enjoyment through most of its pages, this autobiography of an Irish poet's early years, from childhood to maturity in London. For background, he gives you the Ireland of legend, the dark huts, wandering cobblers and beggars, superstitious fears and beliefs against the power of the church. He gives you too the fairs - both hiring and produce and animal fairs; he gives you poets, farmers, drinkers, he gives you a sense of isolation from world affairs even the World War. Experiences at school, running away from home, apprenticeship to a cobbler father, a first taste of modern writing, the arrogance of a first visit to Dublin, his attitude towards other writers, towards his farmer neighbors. You have all the facts of his life - but the charm lies not in those but in the way of writing, which is distinctive. $3.00

Podolsky, Edward, M.D. THE DOCTOR PRESCRIBES MUSIC Stokes

The study of the influence of music on health and personality, the kind of music to cure the condition - not generalizations, but specific sonatas, waltzes, concertos, etc. What should you play for insomnia? What for a heart tonic, for mental depression, for warped personality, for digestive upsets? This book gives specific answers, which makes it practical to have near your radio. A book to recommend to those who have sickness in the home. The author bases his advice on experiments that have been carried on by physicians and psychologists, explains the physical basis for the curative powers of music and cites concrete examples. $1.50

February 17

Coon, Horace 100 VACATIONS Doubleday, Doran

From fancy cruises to tramp steamers, from sight-seeing excursions to camping, fishing, hiking, bicycling and canoeing. The prices are for one person and range from $50 to $500, covering from one week to two months. East and West, coastal and ocean voyaging, daily schedules of activities, carefully worked out budgets, with slim margins for "spending recklessly". Hotels, timetables, references for detailed information, all sorts of data on what to wear, packing, tipping, saving corners, types of boats, routing for European junkets. Starting points for all parts of the country. Good reference book for travelers who want to get most for the least. $1.98

February 20

Engel, Dr. William SENSIBLE DIETING Knopf

A sound book, with valuable features. (1) discussion of fads, obesity as a disease, metabolism and glands, functions of food values, listings of properties of various foods, importance of exercise for health. Dieting on calorie values, with proper balance. Lastly, 300 pages of menus, the year round, varying in calorie content. Charts, etc., at end. Comprehensivel lucid, scientific and sane. $2.50

February 20

Lasswell, Harold D. & Blumenstock, Dorothy — WORLD REVOLUTIONARY PROPAGANDA — Knopf

An unemotional, scientific study of Communist propaganda, basing the investigation on one city, Chicago, during the depression period, 1930-4. It served as a good proving ground, as a major metropolitan center with diversified industry, lying in an intermediate zone with relation to the Soviet Union. The results indicated that Communist propaganda contributed to the defense against "subversive" influences, and to greater security for the unemployed - a failure, from their angle, due not to lack of skill in strategy, but, perhaps, to the antagonism aroused among those who would not go the whole way and who created discord within the ranks. For the student of social science, however, the value of the book will lie in the dispassionate analysis of the terms, methods, policies, etc. It will serve as a testing standard for examination of Communist propaganda elsewhere, for the findings are based on facts, actual cases, not on theory. Additional value in analysis of a city in crisis. $3.50

Fedder, Ruth — A GIRL GROWS UP — Whittlesey

Sound enough - but there are better books on adolescence. This seems an obvious rehash of old truths, how to gain emotional maturity, self-confidence, how to act your age, how to get on with people, how to achieve independence, relations with the opposite sex, question of a job, the give and take of living. Skirts such problems as sex, drinking, etc., which makes it seem very simple and rather dated. $1.75

February 21

Schauffler, Robert Haven — ENJOY LIVING — Dodd, Mead

The Poetry Cure is evidence that Robert Schauffler, no matter what you may think of his prescriptions, knows how to get under the skin of the average human being, and to prescribe successfully. The success of that volume is background for the sale of this program for training for positive qualities and eliminating negative qualities. Palliative measures first suggested form a basis for a solid defense against worry, fear, etc., and autosuggestion plays a considerable part. Variety in mental, physical and emotional training, widening of horizons, rounding out of interests are outlined with accompanying exercises. Emphasis on matching personal ideals to personal equipment. He turns Dorothea Brande's negative suggestions into affirmatives, and claims more for autosuggestion than she does. Definitely for the layman. $3.00

Fisher, Anne B. — WIDE ROAD AHEAD — Dutton
The Story of a Woman Bacteriologist

This reads almost like a novel, with vocational implications, crowding into one life, as it does, conflicts in professional life, a love theme, highly colored characters. It is thoroughly good reading, but somehow lacks the note of authenticity that lends distinction to the autobiographical form of writing. The War gave opportunity to a young girl to prove, in a government post and against professional suspicion and jealousies, that she had ability and initiative. She had all sorts of experiences, dramatic, humorous, pleasant and unpleasant, both in the bureau of animal industry and on case work outside. New York, eventually California, her own bureau and a certain amount of city work lent variety to her subsequent career. The value of the profession, its contribution to the war on disease, human and animal, the prejudices involved, all give this more importance than merely a personal history. A fresh angle on a field that has been scarcely touched in books for the layman. $2.50

February 23

Burton, Katherine PARADISE PLANTERS: *The Story of Brook Farm* Longmans, Green

This is to some extent a refutation of the generally accepted picture of Brook Farm, and sets out to prove that the purpose of the experiment was to find an intelligent cure for social injustice, not a socialistic or communistic program. The background of transcendentalism is given its due. The guiding spirits, the guests, (Ripley, Hawthorne, Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Dana, etc.) are naturally an internal part of the picture. With the Fourier period of influence, it ran against public opinion and began to lose ground. She traces the after lives of some of the exponents, and - while acknowledging the slim results - claims for the experiment some influence on subsequent experiment in living. Definitely specialized in market. $2.50

Morrow, Honoré DEMON DAUGHTER: Morrow
The Confessions of a Modern Girl and Her Mother

* This is thoroughly good reading, whether viewed as a human document or as a psychological study of twenty years struggle between the generations. Autobiographical, in that the story spans so much of Mrs. Morrow's own life, but limited in that it deals almost wholly with the mother and daughter relationship. The mother is modern, progressive, desiring above all things to see the younger generation's angle. The daughter, adopted in early childhood, is fascinating, headstrong, undisciplined, and - since she is given her head - determined to dramatize herself as the victim of irrational jealousies and restrictions which did not exist. The conflict in personalities constituted almost insuperable hurdles, and as a story is a unique commentary on the values of the old school disciplinary methods as opposed to the modern. The story is told primarily in the first person, with occasional shifts to the third person to give the daughter's slant. Sell first as a dramatic study in adolescence (for those who liked the play, *Yes, My Darling Daughter)* and second as a biographical segment in the career of a well known novelist. $2.50

~~February 24~~ 3/17

Montague, Sydney R. NORTH TO ADVENTURE McBride

This is the Peter Freuchen sort of thing, shorn of the romantic aspects. An autobiography of an officer of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who, with a lieutenant, spent three years in a post in the Barren Lands. The record of their life, of the details of police duty, of the administering of frontier justice, of the Eskimos, of hunting, trapping, fishing, of adventures that befell them. It is - of its kind - good reading, and provides an authentic background story for more highly colored fiction dealing with "the Mounties". Sell to men who like northwestern books, true adventure, etc. Should have a plus sale for boys. $2.00

February 25

Horney, Karen, M.D. NEW WAYS IN PSYCHOANALYSIS Norton

A really valuable book on the subject but it presumes a good deal of background in the field. Dr. Horney discusses various theories of analysis, showing the contribution Freud has made in each instance, and where analysis now departs from the extremist viewpoint. Not a debunking, but an evaluation which treats the individual as composite of various factors, not of one childhood experience. The phases discussed from this fresh angle are the Libido, Oedipus Complex, concept of narcissm, death instinct, ego and id, masochism, feminine psychology, etc. $3.00

February 27

Keller, Julius INNS AND OUTS Putnam

With the success of such books as Frank Case's *Tales Of A Wayward Inn* and Bemelmans' *Life Class* as standards, any book showing the inside picture of this business of feeding New Yorkers has something to aim for. This is rather good entertainment - and is, in a way, a better personal adventure story. Keller came over from Switzerland in 1880. He hit the Fleishman bread line before his luck changed, and that gave him his idea for going into the business of food. From beaneries to cheap hotels, then on up the line to Delmonicos, Sherrys, Maxims - and now Canoe-place Inn, a diversified story from the inside looking out, the tricks of the trade and its fascination. Good human interest appeal. $2.50

February 28

Morton, David ALL IN ONE BREATH Macmillan

Morton is a poet in the Charles Hanson Towne school of lightweight verse. The poems are brief lyrice for the most part, dealing with the world of nature, with occasional ones on mankind, with an underlying kindly philosophy. Delicate, ephemeral, not really first class. Sort of diluted Housman. $1.50

Lloyd-George, David MEMOIRS OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE . Yale

First hand records of the peace that laid the groundwork for today's battle are an important and timely contribution to a rounded study of the caldron of Europe. Lloyd George is the one living statesman who can make that contribution. His many volumed autobiography has taken its place on the shelves of contemporary records, but it is in the intimate picture of the peace conference, the people who composed its personnel, the claims advanced by countries now rapidly being dismembered, the conflicts in principles, in secret treaties, in human beings that we see Lloyd George at his peak. He is a master of characterization, though he did not always see all sides of the picture. An important book for students of current history, for colleges and libraries. Already published in England; published with minor changes here. 2 volumes boxed. $10.00

Late February

McSpadden, J. Walker BEAUTIFUL HAWAII Crowell

A record of personal enthusiasm for the Hawaiian islands, the scenery, customs, points of interest. Information on history, traveling, pertinent facts about the life, industries, eating, language, etc., painlessly administered. Background book, not over long, for the South Sea bound; but not a detailed guide book. $2.50

March ~~27~~ 13

Barrie, J. M. M'CONNACHIE AND J.M.B. - *The Speeches of J. M. Barrie* Scribner

Chiefly for Barrie collectors - but a nice job. Forty or fifty odd speeches, excluding only "Courage" and "The Entrancing Life", showing the facile grace, whimsy and modesty one expects from him. Really delightful reading and covering a wide range of subjects, with Barrie discoursing on all and sundry, cricket, writers known, including such familiars as Hardy, Shaw and Stevenson, his own boyhood, Mary Queen of Scots, and a delightful fantasy on "Captain Hook at Eton." Should reach a wider public than expected - so scan your own special lists of customers with care. The introduction by Sir Hugh Walpole gives this a certain launching. $2.50

March ~~17~~ 27

Bernard, Theos PENTHOUSE OF THE GODS Scribner

* An amazing story, told by the first American to be initiated as a lama in Tibet. How he came to go there, how he became bit by bit, immersed in the country and what it signified. His travels, the variety of his experiences, divided between entertainments and study, his acceptance on the part of the Tibetans as a re-incarnation of a holy man and the receipt of the order to become a lama. He seems thoroughly at home in the philosophy he has studied and presents Lamaistic Buddhism as superior to modern religions and ways of life. A book for religious counter as well as oriental philosophy and travel - unique in its field. One might almost sell it as the authentic story behind Hilton's *Lost Horizon*. A more convincingly sincere book than Yeats Brown's in a somewhat parallel approach to the study of yoga. Illustrated with 50 photographs. $3.50

Keir, Alissa SO YOU WANT TO OPEN A SHOP Whittlesey

An excellent handbook for the amateur approaching the subject of opening a shop with little or no background of business experience. Not a book for the person who knows the ropes. There is a preliminary chapter on basic principles, analysis of aptitude, studying the needs and interests, problems of financing, of bookkeeping common to all shops, problems of budgets, of neighborhood - not in detail but in general principles. Then successive types of shops - one to a chapter - introduce principles relating specifically to each type, but with general application, in many instances, to one another. In each instance, the bare bone facts are dramatized through the experiences of some one or more conspicuous exponent. Special lists of aids and sources of further information are given for each type of shop. The types covered include:- tea room, beauty shop, dress shop, lingerie shop, bookshop, gift shop, decorator's shop, knitting shop, hat shop, florist, etc. Ideal reference book for vocational shelves in schools, colleges, vocational schools, clubs and public libraries. $2.00

Reed, Dudley B., M.D. KEEP FIT AND LIKE IT Whittlesey

Discussion of exercise, which with sleep and proper food make up the essentials of keeping fit. The physiology of exercise, muscles, nerves, circulation, digestion, etc. Effect on each of exercise - or its lack. Then the psychological benefits, when to exercise and how much, choice of recreation. Last half deals with games, their history, technique, and benefits. Repetitious, homespun, fairly obvious, but another adequate book for the self-help shelf. Illustrated. $2.50

March 3

White, D. Fedotoff SURVIVAL *Through War and Revolution in Russia* Univ. of Penna.

This is an autobiography of a Russian of wide cosmopolitan background. Through the very diversity of his career - in the Russian navy, in diplomatic service in England, with the American mission, etc., he is able to approach the whole subject of the Russian Revolution more objectively than many of his countrymen. The most interesting part of his book is his diary of the early days of revolution. Eventually he was associated with Kolehak and the White Russians in Siberia, was captured and imprisoned by the Reds, escaped through Finland. His story ends in 1924. His career represents a new angle on Russia; his picture of personalities and events is significant. Not high adventure - but a serious and unusual human document. $3.00

March 5

Plenn, J. H. MEXICO MARCHES Bobbs-Merrill

Compare this with *New Designs for Old Mexico* (page 533) and here are the points that emerge: the Plenn book is concentrated more definitely on such things as the oil seizures, the labor battles, the agrarian distributions, the struggle between church and state, the question of fascist penetration, etc., while the Phillips' book, touching up on all of these subjects, makes them part of a general picture of Mexico, old and new. The Plenn book is fast paced, colloquial, modern in the sense that *Time* is modern - but the general impression left is cheap and superficial. The Phillips' book, on the other hand, might serve as a travel book, a book designed to give the reason behind what happens as a contribution to better understanding of new Mexico. There is an enormous amount of information in *Mexico Marches*, but the process of getting through to it is not pleasant. *New Designs for Old Mexico* accomplishes the same end, and is delightful reading. $3.00

March 7

Paxson, Frederic L. AMERICA AT WAR 1917 - 1918 Houghton, Mifflin

One feels in examining this long and meticulous history of the period of America's share in the World War, that most of the war was fought on battlegrounds in Washington, in training camps, in political rallies, in Red Cross headquarters, in Shipping Board offices, in shipyards, munition works, railroads, etc. For here is the whole picture, step by step, with enough of the personalities to give a human picture, but without any attempt to go into the minutia of detail beyond the salient points of organization and results. Here is the outline record of what war means behind the front, of the vast machinery of putting a whole country into service, of problems of equipment, mobility, food, recreation, moral; of the intricacies of propaganda; and always of the terrific impact of personalities. Important reference. $3.75

March ~~9~~ 17

Slocombe, George REBELS IN ART McBride

Lively, artistic and personal biographies of the men and their works against the background of the period, including Manet, the Impressionists, Monet, Pisarro, Cezanne, Renoir, Sisley, Degas, Van Gogh and on to Matisse. What they stemmed from, the furor their early works aroused, the final acceptance of their artistic value. Good reading and for scope of work should think it worthwhile reference shelf material, to be supplemented by more exhaustive studies. Highlights only, and thoughtful within the limitations of space. Illustrated. $3.50

March ~~10~~ 24

Rowan, Richard Wilmer SECRET AGENTS AGAINST AMERICA Doubleday, Doran

Not so good a book as his earlier *Story of Secret Service*. Slimmer in content, but valuable in that it makes the public aware of the amount of underground subversive action taking place. Rowan discusses sabotage, various weapons in use, new developments in death-dealing inventions. But the major part of the book deals with Japanese and German spies in America. The Nazi spy ring comes in for careful study, - Himmler's Gestapo, the Bund headed by Fritz Kuhn, etc. Canal Zone and dirty work;there Rowan claims that political espionage is more rampant today than at any other time in history. Not a particularly well organized book, but a good eye-opener. Consider in this connection Leon G. Turrou's NAZI SPIES IN AMERICA, in which a former special agent tells in detail the findings of the department of justice against members of the ring. Good adventure with almost too dramatic an immediate interest. (Random House) Each - $2.00

March 13

Kahn, Dr. Fritz OUR SEX LIFE Knopf

This is put forth as the final word of today on sex, to take the place of the standard *Ideal Marriage* by Van De Velde. This strikes us as inexcusably ornate, grandiloquent, sentimental. It is not as up to date in either point of view or scientific data as the Van De Velde. It is comprehensive, with numbered paragraphs touching upon almost all fields:- sexual functions, physiology of sex, primary and secondary characteristics, intercourse, hygiene of sex, fertility, birth control, abortion, contraceptives, sterility, impotence, frigidity, perversions, venereal disease, prostitution, juvenile sex life, etc. etc. Skirting of fringe of psychological factors. Can't see that anything new is added in either matter or manner. $5.00 or $7.50 ?

Schuman, Frederick L. EUROPE ON THE EVE Knopf

A gigantic piece of work, tracing almost day by day the machinations of France, England, Germany and Italy, culminating in the present situation. The scene opens with Hitler's advent to power, his Nazi ideology, the defiance of the democracies with the disarmament conference of 1933. Step by step analysis of the concessions made - prearranged sell-outs to Fascism rather than risking an opening for the Red menace. Ethiopia, Austria, Spain, China, Czechoslovakia, sops to Cerberus, with England bargaining with their enemies, and France perforce following. England and France are seen as second rate powers, hands tied, waiting to see the outcome of the struggle between Moscow and Fascism. The author's bibliography is as overwhelming as his research, and includes all official records of the period. Too detailed and scientific in scope for gross popular consumption, but invaluable as a background book for all interested. Probably the most authoritative to date. $3.50

March 14

Graham, Stephen ALEXANDER OF YUGOSLAVIA Yale

This book is evidence, to one reader at any rate, of the rapidly shifting focus in the European scene. Alexander, in his early years the liberal organizer of the new Yugoslavia, in his later years a benevolent dictator, stood for peace, and if he had lived, might have tempered the strife of Central Europe and held the Nazis in leash. Graham feels this - but does not quite prove his point. His forte is in the handling of the assassination, the mock trial, the whole set up of plot and plan. His presentation of matters political in the turmoil of Central European politics is of less interest. This is his first modern biography, and while important, as a picture of a man who might have meant something, it is necessarily limited by the very limitations of Alexander's life and influence. $3.00

March ~~15~~ 22

Keun, Odette I THINK ALOUD IN AMERICA Longmans, Green

Here's a book that should be read with judgment reserved until the end. The author, a brilliant and perceptive Frenchwoman, already known through *I Discover The English* and *A Foreigner Looks at the T V A*, undertakes to prove to herself that her faith in America as the hope of civilization, is justified. She takes a lot of beatings in the process - and gives as good as she takes. She often seems to talk in broad generalities, on every subject under the sun, but she has her facts at her finger tips. She frequently puts the worst foot foremost - and then seems to retract. She has us down, in none too flattering terms, our strengths and our weaknesses. She is irritating, unfair, dogmatic - but she is challenging and eminently readable. She is a bit raw - for the conservatives - but a good astringent. $3.00

March 15

Woods, Ralph L. AMERICA REBORN Longmans, Green
A Plan for Decentralization of Industry

The first part of this book goes into the reasons back of the concentration of industry in the large centers, facts which are basic in location and growth of cities. With that as a background, the necessity of decentralizing industry in order to bring greater elasticity into employment problems, into freight problems, into credit, taxation, conservation and distribution of natural resources, etc. is discussed in all its ramifications. One important section is devoted to the comparative merits of large and small industrial plants. A book for students of national economy, but not a book for the average layman. College and public library sale. Fully documented, indexed and with a good bibliography. $3.00

March 17

Knight, Ruth Adams STAND BY FOR THE LADIES Coward, McCann

The place of women in radio, the openings, the various ways in which to get a foothold, the particular value of women in radio. Study of the mechanism of programs, studio work, educational programs, acting possibilities, script writing, music. Brief personality sketches of leading women, the pioneers in radio, and the chances for women to create jobs for themselves, A rather specialized vocational book, which is limited by the very newness of the field and the limitations that circumstances impose on women in a new line of work. Should be of value for vocational fields - public, school and college libraries. Matter of fact in handling; uninspired. $1.75

March 20

Wolfe, Bertram DIEGO RIVERA Knopf

Thoroughly readable account of the famous Mexican mural artist, written by a close personal friend. The childhood of genius, study in Europe, recognition in Mexico and belated search for a style and medium which he found at 36. Paris and women. The launching of the storm with his first Mexican commission, and its culmination in the Rockefeller fiasco. Abortive trip to Russia and his work for the Communists in Mexico. His program for art education. His creative future. His three women provide sidelights on the painter and the man, while details of his working day show a character incapable of reserving his energies. Plenty of personal tidbits make the man live and the discussion of the influences in his life seem authoritative. Colorful - contemporary material well handled - interesting as vigorous biography beyond art angle. $5.00

March 23

Griggs, Edward Howard GREAT LEADERS IN HUMAN PROGRESS Bobbs-Merrill

Popular radio talks compiled in book form - nine to twelve page biographettes, superficial and obvious. The talks are supposed to show how the men developed and influenced human progress, but so little period background and so few details beyond the outline facts of the successive lives are given that it seems valueless. $1.50

March 30

Hewett, Edgar L. ANCIENT ANDEAN LIFE Bobbs-Merrill

This third volume in the series concentrates on the Indian tribes of Ecquador, Peru and Bolivia. No general appeal, since Dr. Hewett handles his subject with reference to points of disagreement with previous archaeological theories and interpretation. A book for the specialist and for art departments in libraries. $4.00

~~Late~~ March 11

Stokowski, Olga Samaroff AN AMERICAN MUSICIAN'S STORY Norton

The American background is the unusual feature in Madame Samaroff's career, for she was American born, - in Texas of all places! - married and separated from a Russian, became famous in her own right, and then she married Stokowski. Later she taught at Juillard and Curtis, organized the Schubert Memorial Fund, made records, traveled with her husband's orchestras, wrote and had a finger in many musical pies. Entertaining gossipy reading - filled with anecdotes, personalities and matters of interest outside the world of music. Illustrated. $3.00

April ??

Pollock, Channing ADVENTURES OF A HAPPY MAN Crowell

This is more or less a composite of Pollock's popular Sunday night radio talks. He uses the Carnegie technique to determine what happiness is and how to find it. He takes a homely truth and develops it with anecdotes and personal experience of famous people. Friendship, the home, love, kindness, work, success, culture, nature, good health, the values of liberty and independence. Pretty sappy stuff, with a streak of Pollyanna in the make-up. $1.50

Pickwell, Gayle DESERTS Whittlesey

Here are the deserts of the rain shadows, deserts of the winter's cold, deserts of the summer's dry, deserts of the lakes' and oceans' dunes, deserts of the wet; here are the plants and animals of the deserts. Here is the desert in text and photograph, its beauty and magnificence, its strange fascination. The desert becomes a presence, and yet there are no purple passages, no speeches. The rhythm of the prose and the author's simplicity accomplish more than any other's verbosity. A beautiful book yet utterly practical. The kind of book to take with you to the desert, the photographs and descriptions will help you identify anything you might see and place it for you. But also a book to read at home, for it brings the desert to you. Sell as a travel book for our own desert sections - a nature book - a fireside book. $3.50

~~April 5~~ March 23

Bacon, Leonard SEMI-CENTENNIAL Harper

Leonard Bacon's poetry is definitely literary and aimed at that group. This - his autobiography - is easier reading than his poetry, but also of the "highbrow school" - it lacks the grace and facility of Logan Pearsall Smith and Edman. Serious in intent and save for occasional bits of dry wit, serious in execution. His experience cuts a wide swathe:- his scholarly background and training, a year in Switzerland, then America and 13 years of teaching at Southern California, with a goodly portion of anecdote of men he knew. The war - his writing career - his travels - famous people he knew - what he thought about and what he liked to do - his fishing and the pursuit of the elusive muse. Not particularly personal, and though there is extensive commentary on the passing scene, it lacks warmth and vitality. $3.50

April 7

Puleston, Dennis BLUE WATER VAGABOND: Doubleday, Doran
A Record of Six Years Adventure at Sea

* E. S. McCawley writes: "This is the best of the deep sea cruising books I have read in a long time. There is variety of experience, ranging from a small boat

voyage to the West Indies, happy-go-lucky adventures among the islands, a passage north on a racing yacht ending in shipwreck off Hatteras, a winter voyage in the North Atlantic, and a long cruise in the South Seas. There isn't a dull page. The author makes his experiences come alive in simple, unaffected writing. This earns a place with good adventure. Sell to anyone who has sailed anywhere. Plus sale for boys." (This was reported on page 393, September 1st, when it was scheduled for October publication.) $3.00

~~April 10~~ Sept. 11.

Marcu, Valeriu ACCENT ON POWER: *The Life and Times of Machiavelli* Farrar & Rinehart

A biography of Nicolo Machiaevelli against the background of his times: the importance of the Florentine Republic and the de Medici family, the pressure of Church and foreign countries, Cesare Borgia and the breakdown of medieval concepts. His career, missions to France, his beliefs and theories, his many interests, religious, military, etc., and his clear-eyed view of the elements of statecraft recognizing the spirit of violence as natural, his exile, and death. Thorough job and detailed study of the period, but serious going and lacking the color of Roeder's *The Man of the Renaissance*. $3.00

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR REPORT IN PROPPER SEASON

Published

Bowman, Heath & Jefferson CRUSOE'S ISLAND IN THE CARIBBEAN Bobbs-Merrill

Tobago - as seen by two of my favorite travelers, who do the things I'd like to do and go the places I'd like to go. A study of a tropical island, with all the trimmings. This is the personal record of their months there. Illustrated. $3.50

Fishback, Margaret SAFE CONDUCT Harcourt, Brace

This came out under the Modern Age imprint (see page 476), and is now issued in cloth binding, with Helen Hokinson pictures. A unique etiquette book. $2.00

Swope, John CAMERA OVER HOLLYWOOD Random House

Inside looking in on Hollywood, with as fine photography and reproduction as I've seen for some time, Double sale - camera enthusiasts and movie fans. $3.50

February 6

Dean, Vera Micheles EUROPE IN RETREAT Knopf

* In the flood of books on the Central European situation, this still stands out as a book not to be missed. The editor of the Foreign Policy Bulletin has succeeded in clarifying many aspects of foreign problems. She makes a keen analysis of *Mein Kampf* in relation to a fifteen year period; she recognizes Hitler's shrewdness and keen understanding of mass psychology; she makes the best comparison of Nazism and Communism that has appeared in brief compass, she attempts an appraisal of the results of Munich. She pleads for redefinition of democracy. A book that gives the devil his due, but carries a warning against devils! $2.00

Hassall, Christopher CHRIST'S COMET Harcourt, Brace

A symbolic, poetic drama, merging the story of the Wise Men and the crucifixion. The whole message of Christ's ministry is implicit in the choice of incidents, and there are exquisite passages of writing and a tone of unquestioned sincerity. $1.50

February 6

Vaughan, Richard F. & York, Holcomb HOCKEY Whittlesey

A much more comprehensive book than Mervyn "Red" Dutton's *Hockey, The Fastest Game on Earth* (see page 489), but unfortunately published too late in the season to reap the Winter harvest. Hold it over for next season, as it is by all odds the best hockey manual on the market. The authors, two great Yale players, coaches of renown, have gone into every detail to help all types of players. Every phase is discussed thoroughly, and in the simplest, most direct fashion. Tops in its class. Illustrated. $3.50

February 8

Feldman, Harry Allen MUSIC AND THE LISTENER Dutton

Not intended as an exhaustive history of the progress of music from the earliest times to the present, nor even a study of the types of music most often heard in these days of increased opportunities for the general public. But a concise, clear and cogent analysis of the development from one type of music to another, so that the layman can plan his own study course (through the use of records demonstrating specific points), and in the course of this study, include some of the greatest exponents of each step foreward. A book which should help the novice to enjoy music intelligently. $2.00

Mowrer, Edgar Ansel THE DRAGON WAKES Morrow

This is important, first because Mowrer was the first prophet of the European tragedy whose book, *Germany Turns The Clock Back*, caught the public attention. Second, because in this he studies the situation in China by taking section after section, salient point after salient point, and combines a word picture of the district and what it means in the Oriental picture, and a progressive study of the war with Japan. He is confident that Japan cannot win, and he gives his reasons. Not an easy book to follow. There are sections in which the facts are dramatized by anecdote and incident, there is some personal adventure, but on the whole, the impression left is somewhat abstract and even the personalities of the leaders fail to impress themselves on the reader, with a few exceptions. Not a book that rivals *Red Star Over China*. $2.00

February 10

Ratner, Joseph THE INTELLIGENCE IN THE MODERN WORLD: *John Dewey's Philosophy* Modern Library Giant

A brilliant piece of editing which makes available for the man in the street a comprehensive and representative volume which will give Dewey his rightful place as one of our greatest educators and philosophers, recognized by the masses as well as the scholars. Dewey speaks for the average man because his world is the world of every day, his thesis that philosophy rests on the test of practice and experience. The introduction places him as an active philosopher. The material drawn from his own work, and including some of his most recent writings, gives a broad view of his philosophy and the steps by which he attained his present eminence. An important book for school and college libraries, and for students of modern thought. $1.25

Joesten, Joachim RATS IN THE LARDER: *The Story of Nazi Influence in Denmark* Putnam

A tragic picture (from the standpoint of civilization) of a progressive small country victimized through its exposed position by the neighboring ogre, Germany. Internally, it is sound, modern, prosperous; its external politics are poisoned and rotten, by the strutting power of Nazi spies, propaganda, interference, terrorism. Safety only in Sweden and Great Britain coming to defense of weak national movements. $2.50

February 13

Wright, Milton PUBLIC RELATIONS FOR BUSINESS Whittlesey

Business today needs better public relations if it is to survive and grow. The author makes it his business to clarify the essential meaning of the term, its application not only to "the art of getting along with the public" but of getting along with employees, stockholders, customers, local community factors, government - and the general public. He maintains that business has failed to make clear its role in the new alignment of economic forces and does not get credit for what it has done. It must be sold once more to itself and to the public, and here is a constructive manual of methods used successfully by many types of businesses. Intelligently and courageously they have attacked the problem, first from within, then without, not by one simple technique, but by studying their own labor relations, by using proper forms of advertising, by different types of mail order, radio publicity, general good will advertising, etc. etc. An excellent handbook for business men generally. $3.00

February 14

Mitchell, Janet SPOILS OF OPPORTUNITY Dutton

An Australian woman tells her story, the story of a useful life, but told without any sense of dramatic interest or even any of the verve which characterizes such books as *Journalist's Wife*. Its chief value will lie in a picture of Australian life, through universities, social work, etc., with long digressions to America, Manchuria, Harbin, and finally Manchester, England. Candid but dull. $3.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Note:- Frequently, for the matter of record, we include brief announcements of reissues, new editions, anthologies, etc., which are not available in advance of publication for examination, and which the bookseller merely needs to know about in time to place an order. We have decided to combine these under one heading, arranged by publisher rather than date, for ready reference in ordering. The following are examples currently.

Dodd, Mead

Collings, Kenneth Brown THESE THINGS I SAW Coming March 7 $2.75

An enlarged edition of *Just For The Hell Of It*, containing the author's eye-witness account of the occupation of the Sudetenland, and othe recent happenings.

Mayorga, Margaret, ed. THE BEST ONE-ACT PLAYS OF 1938 Coming February 21 $2.50

Companion volume to the 1937 volume. The cream of the crop for 1938, chosen for adaptability for small stages. Good bibliography of plays of the year.

Peattie, Donald Culross, ed. A GATHERING OF BIRDS Coming March 21 $3.00

Anthology of the best that has been said about birds by naturalists of the last century and a half. Biographical sketches by Mr. Peattie precede each selection and decorations by Edward Shenton in black and white make this an ideal gift volume.

Harcourt, Brace

Federal Writers' Project of WPA KENTUCKY April 13 $2.50

A guide to the Bluegrass state, covering its towns and industry, geography and geology, its education, recreation, press and radio, its history and government, its folklore - and its horses and horse racing. 54 photographic illustrations. Map.

Harcourt, Brace

Kozlenko, William, ed. AMERICAN SCENES April ?? $2.00

Twelve new short plays by leading dramatists, all set against an American background, with characters thoroughly American. Various sections of the country and typical situations have been used for this composite picture of modern life.

Nicolson, Harold STUDIES IN MODERN DIPLOMACY Coming Feb. 15 Ea. vol.$2.50

Three volumes, not recently available in this country, forming an intimate history, - PORTRAIT OF A DIPLOMATIST, PEACEMAKING, 1919 and CURZON.

Harper

Drury, Aubrey CALIFORNIA: *An Intimate Guide* Coming March 2 ✓ $3.50 ✓

This best of California guides reissued with all material brought up to date, and a special section devoted to the Western World's Fair. 50 illustrations.

Green, Paul OUT OF THE SOUTH:
The Life of a People in Dramatic Form April ~~8~~ 13 $3.00

A dozen of the finest plays of our time, including *In Abraham's Bosom.*

Holt

Hamilton, Clayton THE THEORY OF THE THEATRE Coming March 1 $3.50

"A comprehensive work, based on the author's four previous books, but so condensed in the sections already published, and enriched by so much new material that it is practically a new volume."

Houghton, Mifflin

Federal Writers' Project of W P A of Northern California DEATH VALLEY Published Paper $1.00 Cloth$1.75

Text follows usual blue book set up in main highway tours, but there is an excellent introduction, covering geology, climate, flora, fauna, history, industry and a pointed chart of general information. But the pictures are the thing, perhaps the finest photography that has appeared in any of the American Guide Series.

McBride

HISTORICAL MAPS--New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania. Published. Ea. $.75

Nice color work in decorative historical maps which should prove popular for libraries and schools. Some inaccuracies of relative position, spelling, etc., add, possibly, to their special flavor. Published at close of year but not promoted until now.

Norton

Stewart, Maxwell S. SOCIAL SECURITY February 27 $3.00

New and greatly enlarged edition of standard book on subject. Furnishes complete and up-to-date picture of legislation not only in the United States but in other leading industrial countries. Author claims that adequate social security legislation offers key to economic stability and permanent prosperity, in an important new section.

PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES IN TITLE, DATE AND PRICE

	Page
Farrar & Rinehart	
Eidesheim, J. - EDITOR AT WORK - from 2/7 to 2/24/39	582
Gill, Tom - FIREBRAND - from 3/2 to 3/9/39	8
Goodrich, M. - DELILAH - from Fall to 5/19/39	454
Haines, Donal H. - LANGFORD'S LUCK - from Fall to 2/13/39	502
Harper	
Ertz, Susan - BIG FROGS AND LITTLE FROGS - from 2/15 to 2/2/39	575
Fearn, A. - MY DAYS OF STRENGTH - from 3/23 to 4/20/39	23
Gedye, G.E.R. - BETRAYAL IN CENTRAL EUROPE - Price from $3.00 to $3.50	11
Greenman, R. L. - THE WORKER, THE FOREMAN AND THE WAGNER ACT - from 1/19 to 2/2/39	580
Huxley, Aldous - All rights to past titles taken over by Harper	
Long, D. - SEVEN SEAS ON A SHOESTRING - from 2/15 to 2/2	583
Roosevelt, Hall - ODYSSEY OF AN AMERICAN FAMILY-Price from $2.50 to $2.75	29
White & Smith - Correct title POLITICS AND PUBLIC SERVICE	29
Knopf	
Rosenberg, A. - DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM - from 1/23 to 4/3	562
Macmillan	
Barker & Doerflinger - THE MIDDLE PASSAGE - from 2/21 to 3/7	18
Beard, C. & M. - AMERICA IN MIDPASSAGE - from 3/28 to 3/21	14
Homer, S. - MY WIFE AND I - from 3/4 to 2/21	13
Miles, J. - LINES AT INTERSECTION - from 2/14 to 2/21	25
Stephenson, G. - SPRING JOURNEY - from 2/21 to 2/18	3
McBride	
Pignatelli, C. W. - SUCH WAYS ARE DANGEROUS - from 2/9 to 2/24	17
Penn	
Hauck, L. P. - JULIET, INC. - Definite date 2/24	577
Stebbins, L. P. - PEACOCK PLACE - Definite date 2/10	577
Putnam	
Whitman, G. S. - WITHIN MY GARDEN WALLS - from 2/10 to 2/27	25
Random House	
Disney, D. - STRAWSTACK - Definite date 3/14	8
Fineman, I. - DOCTOR ADDAMS - Price from $2.75 to $2.50	5
Reynal & Hitchcock	
MacCurdy, Edward-Ed. - THE NOTEBOOKS OF LEONARDO DA VINCI - 500 additional sets now in stock	507

THE NEW YORK OFFICE CALENDAR - FEBRUARY 15th to MARCH 1st

February 15	- Krause, Herbert - WIND WITHOUT RAIN (Bobbs Merrill)	2
February 15	- Kavanagh, Patrick - THE GREEN HAT (Harper) Fool	43
	- Lomax, Bliss - COLT COMRADES (Doubleday, Doran)	578
	- McKenney, Ruth - INDUSTRIAL VALLEY (Harcourt, Brace)	41
	- Mumford, Lewis - MEN MUST ACT (Harcourt, Brace)	41
February 17	- Gardiner, Dorothy - SNOW WATER (Doubleday, Doran)	575
	- Lawrence, Josephine - A GOOD HOME WITH NICE PEOPLE (Little, Brown)	575
	- Philips, Georgianna - THE SUMMER OF GOOD HOPE (Putnam)	18
	- Wells, Susan - MURDER IS NOT ENOUGH (Simon & Schuster)	528
February 18	- Stephenson, G. - SPRING JOURNEY (Macmillan)	3
	- Thompson, Sylvia - THE ADVENTURE OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMIN (Little,Brown)	573
February 20	- Train, Arthur - MY DAY IN COURT (Scribner)	11
February 21	- Fisher, Anne B. - WIDE ROAD AHEAD (Dutton)	44
February 23	- Fearn, Anne W. - MY DAYS OF STRENGTH (Harper)	23
	- Morrow, Honore - DEMON DAUGHTER (Morrow)	45
February 27	- Binns, Archie - THE LAND IS BRIGHT (Scribner)	4
	- Page, Elizabeth - THE TREE OF LIBERTY (Farrar & Rinehart)	1
February 28	- Lloyd George, David - MEMOIRS OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE (Yale)	46
	- Williams, Ben Ames - THREAD OF SCARLET (Houghton, Mifflin)	577

BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

February 1, 1939

LENTEN SUPPLEMENT ON RELIGIOUS BOOKS - No. 1

Edited by Gene Simmonds

Lent begins Ash Wednesday, February 22. Forget Washington's Birthday and do a window with purple and white and the books you are recommending for Lenten study, reading or meditation. Add some of the attractive new bibles, prayer books and hymnals bound in the lovely colored leathers--blue, green, purple and a red, that is really a hunter's pink. Remember, this is also confirmation time. Include beauty, art, music, poetry and biography in your selections along with a good supply of devotional books, sermons, psycho-therapy, etc. Keep these books on a table where clergy and laymen can easily find them, look through them and compare them. Look at the sale of self-help books, the talk of war, communism, dictatorship. Was there ever a time when the world needed to take forty days of quiet solitude more? I cannot say do this and that and you will profit by it in dollars and cents. It is too serious a time, - a chance for book-sellers everywhere to serve and guide their seeking, confused clientele.

With this thought in mind write a letter to the clergy and leading laymen in your diocese telling them of your desire to cooperate with them in their talks at this critical time. Tell them of the plans you have and ask them to come in and make further suggestions and to send in their parishioners.

Atkins, Gains Glenn CHRISTIANITY AND THE CREATIVE QUESTS Cokesbury

Good Lenten fare for the modern man! From Biblical days, even from the beginning, men have sought and followed. "What seek ye?" was a familiar query on the Master's lips and by the answers one learns the goal. Dr. Atkins believes we are lost because we don't know where we are going. The world today is struggling and striving, redoubling its effort but it has forgotten its aim. With characteristic imagination and clarity, Dr. Atkins surveys our quests, their relation to Christianity, their paths to the abyss and thus, with deep assurance, brings us face to face with the presence of Christ. $2.00

Bonnell, John PASTORAL PSYCHIATRY Harper

* Dr. Bonnell is pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York City, one of the great centres for Evangelical Christianity in this country. From its pulpit men like Henry Jowett preached and in its study Dr. Bonnell carries on its great tradition. The cure of souls is paramount here. In his book the pastor seeks to show how psychiatry and religion are essential factors in this treatment. Since Dr. Bonnell is a thoroughly trained psychiatrist and a clergyman he is specially qualified to teach social workers, doctors and clergymen this trenchant art. By copious illustrations the author makes clear his system and we cannot find any basic problems on which he has not touched. Don't miss this book with its wide market. $2.50

Burtt, Edwin Arthur TYPES OF RELIGIOUS PHILOSOPHY Harper

In recent years there have been many volumes written on the new trends and philosophies in religious thought. This one is unique in that it has no axe to grind, no one philosophy to put across. Dr. Burtt has written a book which he would have found helpful himself because he feels there are others who will benefit by the clarification of the various schools against a broad and expertly painted background. This book answers the questions of - ten asked - What is Humanism, Modernism, etc. We agree with Dr. Burtt it's time someone gave us and the majority of the clergy a clear concise analysis! $3.00

Eastman, Fred MEN OF POWER Cokesbury

Two previous volumes have paved the way for Volume Three and if you have kept a record of your customers collecting these biographies you have a nice little sale in store. However, don't feel the first two are essential as the men whose lives are drawn in this volume may interest a customer who turned down the others. Many clergymen give talks on great men during Lent. Skim the Table of Contents, suggest these names and watch their interest kindled, for they are short but packed full of human interest and inspiration. $1.50

Horner, Harlan Hoyt THE GROWTH OF LINCOLN'S FAITH Abingdon

The story of Lincoln's faith, as it grew with the man in his progress from cabin to White House. The days of his early "separate" Baptist gave way to doubt as he grew older, to faith as he assumed the duties of the Presidency. We see him overwhelmed by grief at the death of his son, Willie, and finding solace and courage to go on in his faith. For Lincolnites and those who don't mind a good deal of supposition. $1.50

Leiffer, Murray H., editor IN THAT CASE Willett-Clark

A book for the clergymen with little experience or few ideas. Circumstances so alter cases however, that it seems doubtful whether this can be used to give answers. The cure of souls is anoperation and the wrong patent medicine can have serious consequences. Sell this only as an inspirational book showing what can be done with knotty problems, with reliance on God to show the way in each specific case. $2.00

Lunn, Arnold THE SCIENCE OF WORLD REVOLUTION Sheed & Ward

Lunn is a delightful person, a sportsman, a real human worth knowing. To read his books is akin to an hour in his presence. Whether you wish to learn to ski, to know why he became a Catholic or to trace the pattern of Revolution, he has the answer all written in his amusing, brilliant style. Lunn outlines the various stages of revolution in destruction to the men, the intellect and the country, and also points out that three symptoms of the final stage before a revolution can easily be discerned in both America and England:- the drift in colleges toward the Left; toying with subversive ideas and that comfortable feeling - it can't happen here! Excellent material for the clergyman who would give a course of lectures during Lent, for Lenten study and college groups interested in patriotic societies, etc. $3.00

Lupton, Dilworth RELIGION SAYS YOU CAN Beacon

This is an example of the up and coming modern school that knows everything, reads everything, quotes everyone and humanizes Jesus so completely that He gradually slips into the class of great preachers and teachers. In fact we know Him as a neighbor. Good so far as it goes but it does not go beyond that point to find a Jesus Christ absolutely divine. This is, however, a matter of theology. Dr. Lupton is a well known Unitarian and to this denomination and many Protestants the book will not seem wanting. To most Protestants, however, especially to the Catholic group, it will fail to classify in the devotional category. $1.50

Murray, J. A. C. AN INTRODUCTION TO A CHRISTIAN PSYCHO-THERAPY Scribner

** This is the book we have waited for - not too technical for the clergyman, professor or social worker untrained in psychology or psychiatry yet sound enough to give him the basic training necessary to carry out a successful program of Christian psycho-therapy. Beginning as it does with the cure of souls, it never loses sight of the necessity of God, Faith and the Church in this program. It studies carefully the mind, instincts, maladjusted minds and modern psychological aids employed by analysts and therapists today, such as analysis, hypnosis, dream analysis, association and suggestion. Every clergyman should own and study this book and it should be brought to the attention of every seminary, school of social work and medical school. For the two former it would meet a definite need as a text book for a course on psycho-therapy while for the latter it would provide a Christian background for doctors. $3.00

North, Eric M., editor THE BOOK OF A THOUSAND TONGUES Harper

The best evidence of the power and authenticity of the Bible as the world of God is the number of tongues into which loyal missionaries and converts have translated it. Now that these have passed the thousand mark it does seem a fitting time to tell this thrilling story to the world. The book is divided into sections; the explanation and real meaning of such an enterprise, the difficulties, obstacles and achievements. The significance and what lies ahead in the way of further translations, revisions and distribution. Lists and summaries, exhibits of the 1018 languages showing characters, giving a bit of the history of the races using each; forty-one special articles of various translations from the Aniwa to Yiddish and four meticulously arranged indices comprise the book which has been published for the American Bible Society. The General Secretary has done an excellent job as Editor. A valuable book for libraries, missionary societies and all the foreign mission minded (of which there are always more during Lent while mission study classes fire their imaginations.) $2.50

Orr, William M. THE FINGERPRINTS OF GOD Cokesbury

Nature stories for children, teaching them of God, birds, flowers, trees, stars, clouds, the earth, etc. Suitable for Church School Sermonettes, the devotional period in kindergarten or day schools and an excellent idea to keep on tap for summer camps and Daily Vacation Bible Schools. $1.00

Peale, Norman V. YOU CAN WIN Abingdom

Again the modern assurance school - (see Lupton report) but this time written by a Methodist, who for all his modernity believes that the power to win comes not through the human Jesus but the Risen Christ, whose touch has still its ancient power. Again everyone is quoted, Freud, Shaw, William James, Service, Goethe; there are illustrations and stories galore. A book for all who form the market for Vash Young, Link and Carnegie, who want religion plus their own bootstraps for boosters, *and* who are *not* Unitarians. Be very careful not to confuse these two books so similar in subject and title and make clear to your customers the difference is in theological treatment. $1.00

Power, Sister Mary James POETS AT PRAYER Sheed & Ward

A delightful piece of work, unbiased and unprejudiced. Sister Mary James has chosen the modern poets we hear so much about, poets who influence the youth of these United States and Britain, poets whose voices are heard in foreign tongues as well. Some are Christian, some pagan; each is fairly appraised. Of Millay she says, "It is the autobiography of a soul that never saw beyond the natural. Were the motive of her love supernaturalized the treatise would be a study in Catholic Mysticism." Masefield she describes as a "fatalist" and Elinor Wylie as "a Christian by grace." She judges from their work not their lives. With certain exceptions we enjoyed and can recommend the book to all students of modern poetry, poetry societies, classes, etc., as well as the clergymen looking for a unique subject for a series of talks. $3.00

Sheed & Ward announce THE CATHOLIC MASTERPIECE series, reprints of the best books they have published at fifty cents (paper bound) and $1.00 (cloth bound) or $2.50 and $5.00 for the first six as a set. As this is purely an experiment, an attempt to give the public high quality at low prices, booksellers should do their part to promote this series, recommending it to Catholics and non-Catholics (for it is of general interest) and thus cooperate with this generous move on the part of Sheed & Ward. Here are three of them.

Gheon, Henri THE SECRET OF THE CURÉ D'ARS Sheed & Ward

Henri Gheon has a flare for telling with irresistible simplicity the stories of the saints. From the titles, which instantly inspire curiosity, to the last simple sentence, the reader is held. Especially is this true of the story of the naive French peasant M. Vianny, who at the age of four, was discovered praying in the bar. Though he lived in the 19th century, he is still known today as the Curé d'Ars. Chesterton has added a delightful note. $ .50

Dawson, Christopher PROGRESS AND RELIGION Sheed & Ward

* One of the greatest living philosopher's best books for fifty cents is news. Don't forget to show this book. Dawson's books sell and sell well at $2.00, $3.00 and $4.00 to all creeds and professions. Here his amazing grasp of world history forms the background for his contention that religion cannot be effaced without dire consequences. There is nothing sensational or threatening but with sound logic Dawson enlarges his thesis. All progress depends on religion until the reader is convinced and stirred to faith and action. He has made us see that both are needed. $ .50

Sargent, Daniel THOMAS MORE Sheed & Ward

We thinkg of Thomas More saying farewell to Meg in Elizabethan fashion, of More's *Utopia of Martyrdom.* But for history textbooks and Daniel Sargent that is all we might know. Sargent is an American, utterly unbiased, and he has written a delightful biography. Few of us are willing to live up to our faith today. Men who died for theirs present an undeniable challenge, a pertinent question to think over this Lent. $ .50

The other three books in this series will be ready shortly:

Arnold Lunn: NOW I SEE

A. Faufini: CATHOLICISM, PROTESTANTISM AND CAPITALISM

Rudolf Allers: THE PSYCHOLOGY OF CHARACTER

Watch for them and take orders on the set.

Skeath, William C. HIS LAST WORDS Cokesbury

With the advent of Lent, every clergyman is faced with the problem of a Good Friday whatever his denomination. That means that they are looking for books on the seven Last Words that are fresh, honest, reverent and intelligent. This book is just that. $1.00

Wright, Ronald Selby, editor ASKING THEM QUESTIONS Oxford
2nd Series

* Series One sold 15,000 copies in a year and was translated into Braille. Series Two is issued by request. We went "quietly mad" in good Episcopalian fashion over the first volume (1935) and still were not disappointed in this. The same high quality of intellect, truth, sincerity and simplicity has been upheld. The questions are Catholic in their subject and universal in appeal. Every one of them rings a bell - our instinctive reaction was "Oh, I've always wondered about that!" An ideal book for Lenten devotions, for short talks, for anyone and everyone who would know themselves or answer others. A must for libraries, churches, schools and colleges. $1.25

Additional Lenten material in February 15th issue.

BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

Vol. VI February 1, 1939 No. 3

SPRING JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT - No. 1

PICTURE STORY BOOKS

Hogan, Inez NICODEMUS AND THE GANG Dutton

* This is the seventh of the popular *Nicodemus* books, and one of the best of the series. Miss Hogan has a freshness of approach, a child quality, humor and a sense of the value of repetition that gives the special quality to the little stories and pictures of the small darky and his little sister. In this story, a bit more elaborate than its predecessors, the "gang" builds a "club house" - out of the bits and pieces they can collect. It winds up with a watermelon party. (2/6/39) $1.00

FIRST STEPS IN READING - *Story Books*

Beebe, Catherine JUST AROUND THE CORNER Oxford

A Spring book for small children, combining a simple story of a family outing, with a few nature facts about the coming of Spring. They fare forth to seek the first signs. They find pussy willows; they learn that brooks run faster in the Spring; they visit a maple sugar farm and see the various steps in the process. And when they come home, they learn that the city has its signs of Spring, too. Pictures by Robb Beebe. Not important but pleasant. (2/15/39) $1.25

Fisher, Dorothy Canfield & Scott, Sarah Fisher ON A RAINY DAY A. S. Barnes

A mother and a famous grandmother build a little story around the inventions of simple games by a small family on a rainy day. This idea in story form has a definite educational value, without too pointed a moral. The vocabulary is keyed to beginning readers, and the content material should prove a springboard for creative play. Illustrated by Jessie Gillespie. (Published) $1.00

STORY BOOKS FOR THE 9 - 12's

Estcourt, Doris LITTLE ELEPHANT COMES TO TOWN Oxford

* Any child that would love to have a different sort of pet from the general run will enjoy this story of the pygmy elephant who ran away from the gypsy circus caravan, and found a home for himself. He brought real adventure into the lives of his self-appointed guardians, and while not a very convincing story, it is fun. Nice pencil drawings by M. K. Mountain. (2/15/39) $1.50

FACT BOOKS FOR THE 9 - 12's

Villiers, Alan JOEY GOES TO SEA Scribner

* A first rate true story of a ginger kitten, presented by the Solomon Island natives to the captain of the *Joseph Conrad*, and of Joey's adventures at sea. He made himself at home in every part of the ship, he learned to climb the rigging (and he had a spill in the ocean), he caught flying fish when they landed on deck, and he even played hero in no small way. Illustrated by Victor J. Dowling. (2/20/39) $1.50

FACT BOOKS FOR THE 9 - 12's (cont'd.)

Thompson, Blanche Jennings MORE SILVER PENNIES Macmillan

Silver Pennies has proved one of the best collections of modern poetry for children that has been published. Now comes a companion volume (though not a volume in the Little Library), tapping the rich vein of modern verse for more poems that children will love. The collection includes many old favorites among writers, with such names among them as Millay, Guiterman, Farjeon, Amy Lowell, Frost, and many known particularly for their children's verse, Rachel Field, Dorothy Aldis, etc. Some of the nicest poems in the book are by little known poets. The material is divided into not too obvious subject groups, and many of the poems are prefaced by a brief editorial comment. Illustrated by Pelagie Doane. (1/24/39) $1.25

Peterson, Roger T. THE JUNIOR BOOK OF BIRDS Houghton, Mifflin

This is an excellent field guide on birds, based on a new series of the Bird Lore leaflets. Mr. Peterson is the director of the educational program of the National Association of Audubon Societies, and the author of the Field Guide to the Birds, from which the illustrations for this junior volume are drawn. He has chosen twenty three birds, including some familiar ones such as the house wren, the blue bird and the blue jay, but for the most part the birds selected are not the routine ones. For instance, there is the redshouldered hawk, the burrowing owl, the ruby-throated humming bird, the cedar waxwing, the bobolink, the Baltimore oriole, etc. Colored full page illustrations, marginal pen and ink drawings, and brief data as to nests, locality, value, songs, and habits make this a valuable bird guide. $2.00

FOR THE 12 to 15 YEAR OLDS - *Fiction*

Girvan, Helen PHANTOM ON SKIS Farrar & Rinehart

* A grand mystery story in a unique setting, a French manor house in the mountains back of Quebec in the dead of winter. There's a priceless collection of old music boxes - there's a secret staircase and a secret room - there's a ghost skier - a mysterious woman in grey - a sugar house entered and left without keys or tracks - an unexpected "paying guest" who arrives before his time. And in the midst of it all is Wendy, daughter of an architect, who loves working with her father and who takes on running the manor house as a fill-in until his return. $2.00

FIFTEEN AND UP - *Fiction*

Aspden, Don MIKE OF COMPANY D Scribner

* First of all, a good dog story, with an authentic note. Second, a good picture of a group of enlisted men, first in training camp in South Carolina, then at embarkation camp, on board a troop ship, and overseas. One feels, that in spite of the honest picture of mud and dirt and hardships, that there is a bit too much of the glamor of war time *camaraderie* for those who don't want their young people to play with tin soldiers (figuratively speaking). Forget that - and it is a good yarn. The drawings by Paul Brown give it added distinction. $2.00

BOOKS FOR USE BY PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Gardner, Horace J. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU! Lippincott

Good library item for parents planning parties, for various types of birthday celebrations. Parties divided by age groups, with type of party appropriate for each group, suggestions for games, old and new, for costumes, types of food, etc. Astrological prophecies, etc. (Reported also December 15th bulletin - page 583) $1.00